

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 8 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

IN INTERVIEW WITH "TIME" CORRESPONDENT LEE GRIGGS,
TANZANIAN PRES JULIUS NYERERE SAID BLACK AFRICAN STATES
WOULD SEEK CHINESE/SOV ASSISTANCE IF S. AFRICA HELPS
MILITARILY PROP UP RHODESIAN REGIME (WSTAR 3/7).

ACCORDING TO AP REPORT FROM LONDON, PHILIP SHORT NAMES
FIRST BBC RE,IDENT CORRESPONDENT IN PEKING (PHINQ 3/8).
WP NEWS DISPATCH NOTES BBC 9TH ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWS ORG
WITH RIGHT HAVE PEKING CORRESPONDENT.

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SLIGHT TREMOR FELT IN PEKING MORNING 3/7 ACCORDING AFR/
PEKING (NYT 3/8).

EDWIN POPE (KNIGHT NEWS SERVICE) SAYS HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS
GOING TO PRC THIS FALL. CITES GLOBETROTTER SPOKESMAN
HARRISON THAT DOS "CLEARED US," AND TEAM WILL PLAY CANTON/
SHANGHAI (PHINQ 3/8).

WP'S MATHEWS IN HK WRITES THAT APPOINTMENT MA LI AS KWEI-
CHOW PARTY CHIEF/HEAD MILITARY DISTRICT COMMISAR BRINGS TOP

PRC PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP SHAKEUPS TO 6. APPOINTMENT BREAKS PATTERN NEW SW LEADERS CLOSE TO WEI AND HSU, SINCE MA CLOSE TO PEKING CMDR CHEN HSI-LIEN AND HINTS OF POLIT-BURO BALANCING ACT.

NYT SPEC (3/8) FROM HK NOTES RESHUFFLE LEADERSHIP IN FOUR PRC PROVINCES (HEILUNGKIANG, KIANGSU, CHEKIANG, KWEICHOW) AS HUA REGIME ATTEMPTS TO RESOLVE PERSISTENT FACTIONAL PROBLEMS OF RECENT YRS. JOBS GO TO OLDER PRE-GPCR PARTY/MIL OFFICIALS.

IN CSM TRAVEL SECTION, PETER TONGE NOTES CHINA VISIT OF MTS "DANAE" AND PLANS FOR OTHER TOURIST GROUPS TO VISIT PRC. OPINES OPPORTUNITIES TRAVEL TO/IN CHINA LIKELY SLOWLY EXPAND. CITES HOLLAND-AMERICAN LINES PUB REL DIR KOLB'S CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM RE FUTURE TOURIST TRAVEL AND COMMENTS RE TRAVEL IN CHINA.

2. JAPAN

SOV AMB POLYANSKII REJECTS JAPANESE PROTEST OVER INCLUSION 4 SOVIET-HELD ISLANDS CLAIMED BY JAPAN IN USSR'S NEW 200-MI FISHERY ZONE. AMB SAYS JAPAN'S ATTITUDE WILL MAKE IT DIFFICULT REACH AGREEMENT ON FISHERIES PROBLEMS BETW USSR-JAPAN; TALKS ON PROVISIONAL FISHERIES AGREEMENT DUE NEXT TUES (REUTER TOKYO).
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EARTHQUAKE HIT HOKKAIDO 3/7; NO REPORTS DAMAGE/INJURIES (AP, PHINQ; UPI, NYT).

REUTER'S KERR (TANEGASHIMA) DOES ITEM ON JAPAN'S SPACE PROGRAM. MENTIONS COUNTRY'S RECENT SUCCESS W/LAUNCHING STATIONARY SATELLITE, JAPANESE DEPENDENCE ON US TECHNOLOGY. JAPAN DETERMINED BECOME MORE INDEPENDENT IN SPACE FIELD, W/EVENTUAL GOAL LARGE-SCALE COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE. KERR ALSO NOTES JAPANESE WEATHER SATELLITE WILL BE LAUNCHED FROM US IN JULY, AS PART WORLD WEATHER WATCH PROGRAM. PROJECT INVOLVES US/USSR/EUR/JAPAN, WILL PROVIDE CONTINUOUS FLOW WEATHER INFO FROM N JAPAN TO FAR S AS NZ.

SHOICHI YOKOI--"CAPTURED" ON GUAM IN '72 AS LAST JAPANESE HOLDOUT FROM WWII--WILL RETURN TO ISLAND TO RELIVE EXPERIENCES FOR 30-MIN JAPANESE FILM (WP, WSTAR 3/7).

CSM'S BRAY (TOKYO) DOES TRAVEL PIECE ON WHAT AWAITS VISITORS TO JAPAN'S CAPITAL.

3. AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND

SIR KEITH HOLYOAKE APPOINTED BY QUEEN TO BECOME NZ'S 13TH

GOV-GEN. HOLYOAKE RESIGNED CABINET POST AS MINISTER OF STATE/WILL RESIGN FROM PARLIAMENT BEFORE ASSUMING JOB (AP, WSTAR 3/7). OPPOSITION PARLIAMENT MEMBERS CRITICIZE APPOINTMENT AS PARTISAN, SAYING HOLYOAKE TOO POLITICAL FOR JOB (REUTER, NYT).

PHILS HAS JOINED LIST COUNTRIES WANTING BUY AUSTRALIAN URANIUM, PUTTING MORE PRESSURE ON GOA ALLOW URANIUM DEVELOPMENT/EXPORT. "FOX INQUIRY" STUDYING ISSUE, THO WHATEVER OUTCOME, AUSTRALIA SEEMS LIKELY PROCEED W/MINING/EXPORTING-- BUT ONLY W/STRICT SAFEGUARDS, ESPEC RE DISPOSAL UNCLASSIFIED

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NUKE WASTE (STOVE, JOC).

4. MARIANAS

NORTHERN MARIANAS SUNDAY OVERWHELMINGLY APPROVED NEW CONSTITUTION THAT WOULD SET UP COMMONWEALTH GOVT. DOCUMENT NOW GOES TO INTERIOR SEC ANDRUS/PRES FOR APPROVAL. OVER 93 PCT OF 57-PCT VOTER TURNOUT FAVORED PROPOSAL (WP; AP, SUN).

5. INDOCHINA/THAILAND

RTG POLICE SAY 1 POLICEMAN KIA WHEN 50 CAMBODIAN SOLDIERS HIT BORDER VILLAGE OVER WKEND (WSTAR 3/7).

VN BIDS TO ATTRACT FONEX THRU TOURISM; FACILITIES BEING EXPANDED/IMPROVED. SO FAR ONLY GROUP TRAVEL ENCOURAGED; MOST TOURISTS UP TO NOW FRENCH (REUTER, CSM).

6. INDOCHINA/KOREA

HOVEY (NYT)SAYS CARTER ADMIN EXPECTED WITHIN FEW DAYS LIFT TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS TO NK/VN/CAMBODIA/CUBA. DOS' BROWN WOULD NOT DENY "NEWSWEEK" REPORT ADMIN HAD ALREADY MADE DECISION REMOVE LEGAL OBSTACLES TO TRAVEL; OFFICIAL SAYS DECISION WOULD BE ANNOUNCED BY MARCH 18 AFTER SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS. IF RESTRICTIONS LIFTED FOR CUBA/VN, ACTIONS ALMOST CERTAIN BE INTERPRETED AS MOST POSITIVE STEPS YET TAKEN BY ADMIN TOWARD GOAL OF NORMAL RELS.

7. KOREA

FORMER SK PRES YUN HO-SUN/50 OTHER PROMINENT CHRISTIAN/POL LEADERS SAY KEPT UNDER HOUSE ARREST FOR 3 DAYS LAST WK, HAD

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HOMES SEARCHED W/O LEGAL GROUNDS (WSTAR 3/7; WP; GLOBE).

AT ASIA SOCIETY IN NY, SK OPPOSITION LEADER LEE CHUL SEUNG SAID SHOULD BE NO HASTY US WITHDRAWAL; TROOPS SHOULD REMAIN UNTIL SOLID PROGRESS FOR UNIFICATION 2 KOREAS BECOMES EVIDENT. ADDED "EXCESSIVE PUBLIC PRESSURE" FROM US FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS MAY PROVOKE STRONG NATLISTIC REACTION FROM KOREAN GOVT/PEOPLE. LEE IS 1 OF SEVERAL OPPOSITION LEADERS WHO HAVE VISITED US, APPEALED FOR CONTINUED US SUPPORT, OPPOSED HASTY TROOP WITHDRAWAL. ANALYSTS THINK ROKG WANTS SLOW TROOP PULLOUT, CONVEY THAT PARK EASING REPRESSIVE RULE, IMPROVE RELS STRAINED BY KCIA SCANDAL. LEE ALSO DECRIED US RESTRICTIONS ON SK PRODUCTS (CHAPIN, NYT).

SEIDEN (SUN) NOTES STATISTICS PAINT ROSY PICTURE SK'S ECONOMY, BUT IMPRESSIVE GAINS BASED HEAVILY ON SWEATSHOPS/ CHILD LABOR/NO UNIONS. REVIEWS DIFFERENT ASPECTS ECON SITUATION, INCL TREMENDOUS GROWTH ME AS EXPORT MKT TO COVER OIL DEFICIT. ADDS SEOUL OFFICIALS SAY RURAL INCOME HAS NOW REACHED SAME LEVEL AS AVERAGE URBAN INCOME.

SK, MAJOR US COTTON IMPORTER IN 1975-76, EXPECTED CUT AMOUNT THIS YR BUT WILL BE 2ND LARGEST IMPORTER AFTER JAPAN, ACCORDING FAS. COTTON USE MAY BE LIMITED BY TIGHT WORLD SUPPLY/POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES IN FINANCING PURCHASES (JOC).

FORMER NK VP KO JUN TAEK DIES OF UNSPECIFIED ILLNESS. SERVED AS VP IN LATE '50S/EARLY '60S, HAD BEEN IN SEMI-RETIREMENT SEVERAL YRS (UPI, NYT).

8. GENERAL

ACCORDING DOD STATS TAKEN FROM NSC STUDY MADE PUBLIC SUNDAY BY REP ASPIN, US/NATO/JAPAN/AUSTRALIA/ROC/NZ/SK HAVE TOTAL 500 MAJOR SURFACE COMBAT VESSELS, WHILE SOVIET UNCLASSIFIED

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BLOC FEWER THAN 250. FACTS SHOW ALLIED CONTRIBUTIONS IN WARSHIP CATEGORY TIP BALANCE IN US FAVOR (CHITRIB).

9. HUMAN RIGHTS

DEP SECSTATE CHRISTOPHER/DOS HUMAN RTS COORDINATOR DERIAN TELL SFRC'S FON AID SUBCMTE THAT CARTER ADMIN'S COMMITMENT ON ISSUE NOT "CAPRICIOUS" OR HALF-HEARTED. CHRISTOPHER ASSERTED ISSUE "INTEGRAL PART" US FOPOL, ADDED "QUIET DIPLOMACY" AND "FRIENDLY PERSUASION" OFTEN USEFUL AS PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS/AID WITHDRAWAL/OTHER TANGIBLE SANCTIONS. DERIAN URGED SPECIAL TRAINING FOR AMBS/EMB PERSONNEL, CLOSE CONTACT W/ORGS/INDIVIDUALS THAT PROMOTE

HUMAN RTS IN OTHER NATIONS (LESCAZE, WP;, UPI, NYT).

IN WIDE-RANGING INTERVIEW 3/7, UN AMB YOUNG STATED ADMIN'S HUMAN RTS OFFENSIVE WILL NOT EXEMPT ANY COUNTRIES. SAID WILL BE INITIATIVES INVOLVING SK/PHILS; HAVE BEEN "PERSONAL MESSAGES SENT ALREADY." ADDED "THERE ISN'T ANYBODY SAFE" FROM KIND OF INITIATIVES CARTER ADMIN BRINGING ON BEHALF INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM (BRODER, WP).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. JAPAN/KOREA

THARP (CSM) REMARKS THAT WHILE JAPANESE RESPONSIVE TO NEW ADMIN, ARE STILL ANXIOUS OVER ANY US TROOP WITHDRAWALS FROM SK IN NEAR FUTURE. NOTES FUKUDA "STRONGLY OPPOSED" ANY WITHDRAWAL/EXPECTED TELL CARTER ANY CHANGES IN SECURITY KOREAN PENINSULA WOULD SERIOUSLY AFFECT JAPANESE SECURITY AS WELL. SAYS ALTHO JAPANESE EMBARRASSED BY PARK'S REPRESSION HUMAN RTS, THEY WANT KEEP MIL ASPECTS SECURITY PROBLEM SEPARATE FROM RTS ASPECTS. JAPAN ALSO CLOSELY WATCHING CARTER ADMIN'S POLICIES TOWARD VN/PRC; TOKYO OF-UNCLASSIFIED

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FICIALS THINK PRES WILL NOT MAKE HASTE NORMALIZE RELS W/PRC, SINCE NO POL NECESSITY INVOLVED. RE VN, JAPANESE BELIEVE HANOI MUST SHOW MORE COOPERATION ON MIA ISSUE BEFORE ANY SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN MUTUAL RELS CAN TAKE PLACE. ADDS JAPANESE WATCH US FOPOL ESPEC IN TERMS WHO ADVISES PRES--NOTES SALES IN TOKYO BOOKSTORES BOOMING FOR ANYTHING WRITTEN BY BRZEZINSKI.

11. INDOCHINA

WP OPINES VN/CUBA REPRESENT UNFINISHED BUSINESS US ANTI-COMMUNISM. BELIEVES PRES WISE TO TRY TACKLE PROBLEM. OBSERVES VN LACKS CASTRO'S PUBLIC RELS GENIUS BUT HAS MIA INFO TO BARGAIN FOR ACCESS TO INTL ECON/POL BODIES OF WHICH US PRINCIPAL GATEKEEPER. ADDS HANOI ALSO WANTS OIL-DRILLING DATA THAT FIRMS TOOK HOME W/THEM. FINDS US-VN ISSUES NOT ALL THAT TOUGH, SINCE ADMIN/HOUSE MIA CMTE PAVED WAY FOR COMMISSION THAT PRES SENDING TO VN TO DISCUSS MIAS/TAKE POL SOUNDINGS. THINKS HANOI READY MAKE GESTURE ON MIAS; US CAN RECIPROCATE. ADMITS SO MUCH US EMOTION INVESTED IN VN/CUBA THAT NORMALIZATION CAN'T PROCEED ON COOL CALCULATION NATL INTEREST, BUT BELIEVES CARTER APPROACH IS TO LET PAST FURIES SUBSIDE, MOVE TO POINT WHERE WE CAN SMOOTH DIFFERENCES.

12. ASEAN

MORITZ (CSM) WONDERS IF NEW ANTI-COMMUNIST MIL ALLIANCE EMERGING FROM ASEAN. NOTES USSR/VN SEE SUCH HAPPENING W/US AID THO ASEAN MEMBERS DENY CHARGE, ASSERT PURPOSE LARGELY ECON/POL. ADDS PRC WITHHOLDS DENUNCIATIONS SINCE SEES GROUP AS COUNTERWEIGHT TO POSSIBLE USSR INTERVENTION IN SEA. SAYS ASEAN MEMBERS SHARE COMMON INTEREST IN CONTAINING INSURGENCIES MILITARILY/PREVENTING REBEL SANCTUARY IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES/REDUCING ECON GRIEVANCES THAT SPAWN INSURGENCIES. GIVES EXAMPLES COOPERATION BETW UNCLASSIFIED

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MEMBERS, BUT POINTS OUT STILL DIFFER IN APPROACHES TO INTL COMMUNISM. ADDS ALL HAVE SOUGHT BETTER STATE-TO-STATE RELS W/COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN HOPE "FRATERNAL AID" TO INSURGENTS LESS FORTHCOMING.

13. CHINA

WALLACH (BALT N-A 3/7) SEES CARTER ADM CUT IN ARMS AID TO ROC THIS YEAR AS "UNMISTAKABLE SIGNAL" TO PRC WS ANTS CONTINUE NORMALIZATION PROCESS AND IS "LIVING UP" TO SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE PLEDGE. SAYS DOS/PM DEP DIR ERICKSON'S ASSERTION CHANGE MERELY "RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S ABILITY TO DEFEND ITSELF" IS ATTEMPT GLOSS OVER CHANGE WHILE OTHER OFFICIALS ADMIT OPPOSITE CLOSER TO TRUTH. ADDS MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY WILL BECOME TAIWAN'S MAIN SECURITY BULWARK. NEW REGULATION REQUIRING DOS APPROVAL INITIATE ANY ACTION DESIGNED INDUCE SALE SEEN AS ANOTHER ADMIN LEVER TO CONTROL COMMERCIAL SALES ABROAD;

14. HUMAN RIGHTS

JOHNSTON/KEMPSTER (LAT 3/7) DO LENGTHY HUMAN RTS ARTICLE, CONCERNED MAINLY W/USSR. MENTION ADMIN FACING CREDIBILITY PROBLEM, AS SK/PHILS EXEMPT FROM FON AID CUTS DEALT TO URUGUAY/ETHIOPIA/ARGENTINA DUE THEIR HUMAN RTS VIOLATIONS. CREDIBILITY FURTHER LOST WHEN FACT REVEALED CARTER CUT ONLY 3 MIL DOLS FROM FORD PROGRAM'S 973-MIL-DOL MIL AID BUDGET. VANCE

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